Working Committee (TCWC) of the representatives of the three countries was constituted. The first meeting of the TCWC was held in Yangon on 24th-25th February, 2005. The TCWC prepared a draft MoO to be signed by the three oil Ministers after the approval of their respective Governments. However, the approval of the MoU has been delayed on account of differences between India and Bangladesh over one preambular paragraph in the draft MoU. Minister (P&NG) visited Dhaka on 5th September, 2005 to discuss issues relating to the draft MoU. These issues continue to be under consideration by the Governments of Bangladesh and India even as India explores with Myanmar other options of importing natural gas into India from Myanmar.

The Governments of Turkmenistan, Afghanistan and Pakistan have been examining the setting up of a transnational gas pipeline to exploit the available gas reserves in Turkmenistan. They have designated ADB as the lead consultant and development partner. India has been invited to join the project it has agreed to do so, initially as an 'Observer'. Minister (P&NG) has been invited to the next Steering Committee Meeting, which is tentatively scheduled to be held in Ashgabat in January, 2006.

Availability of **LPG**

†1481. SHRIMATI KUM KUM RAI: Will the Minister of PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS be pleased to state:

(a) the percentage of areas in the country having cooking gas facility, State-wise;

(b) whether Government are considering to make the remaining areas equipped with cooking gas facility;

(c) if so, the details thereof; and

(d) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS (SHRI MANI SHANKAR AIYAR): (a) to (d) As on 1.10.2005, Public Sector Oil Marketing Companies (OMCs) were serving about 8.72 crore LPG customers covering approximately 45% of the population of the country. The State-wise details are given in the Statement (See below). OMCs

†Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.

are free to set up LPG distributorships as per their commercial considerations. However, as a matter of policy, Government have advised them to concentrate their future expansion plan in semi urban/rural areas of the country.

Statement

State-wise percentage of population covered by LPG as on ***1.10.2005***

(Provisional)

States/UTs	No. of LPG customers/ household	%Population covered by LPG
States		
Andhra Pradesh	9,744,952	57.54
Arunachal Pradesh	103,865	48.24
Assam	1,577,873	31.97
Bihar	2,052,385	14.84
Chhattisgarh	861,901	21.10
Delhi	3,835,552	100.00
Goa	369,814	100.00
Gujarat	4,819,228	49.46
Haryana	2,850,247	76.83
Himachal Pradesh	1,113,361	91.59
Jammu & Kashmir	1,230,241	78.83
Jharkhand	887,121	18.44
Karnataka	4,846,640	46.77
Kerala	4,612,010	68.08
Madhya Pradesh	3,537,781	32.24
Maharashtra	11,731,812	59.34
Manipur	193,835	51.89
Meghalaya	87,429	20.74
Mizoram	164,202	92.40
Nagaland	114,428	35.08

States/UTs	No. of LPG customers/ household	% Population covered by LPG
Orissa	1,271,320	16.58
Punjab	4,100,940	94.28
Rajasthan	3,578,137	38.63
Sikkim	92,058	80.00
Tamil Nadu	7,979,203	54.98
Tripura	198,992	29.86
Uttar Pradesh	8,932,485	34.93
Uttaranchal	1,350,547	84.32
West BengaL	4,350,387	27.67
SUB-TOTAL	86,588,746	44.73
Union Territories		
A. & Nicobar	40,663	52.52
Chandigarh	305,170	100.00
D & Nagra Haveli	27,863	60.66
Daman/Diu	25,346	70.49
Lakshadweep	2,952	29.69
Pondicherry	206,852	95.53
SUB-TOTAL	608,846	100.00
ALL INDIA	87,197,592	44.93

Funds for production of petroleum products

†1482. SHRI SURENDRA LATH: Will the Minister of PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS be pleased to state:

(a) the targets fixed for the production of petroleum products during the Tenth Five Year Plan;

(b) the details of achievements made actually in the production so far;

†Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.